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Four new genera of the *Soronia* complex (Coleoptera: Nitidulidae) from Australia, New Zealand, Fiji and tropical America with notes on composition of the complex and description of new species from Southern Hemisphere

Четыре новых рода комплекса *Soronia* (Coleoptera: Nitidulidae) из Австралии, Новой Зеландии, Фиджи и тропической Америки, замечания по составу комплекса и описания новых видов из Южного полушария

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КЛЮЧЕВЫЕ СЛОВА: систематика, филогения, новые роды, новые виды, Coleoptera, Nitidulidae, *Soronia* комплекс, Австралия, Новая Зеландия, Фиджи, тропическая Америка, Реюньон, Мадагаскар.

ABSTRACT: In the paper there are described new taxa, namely: *Hisparonia* gen.n. (type species: *Soronia hystrix* Sharp, 1876 from New Zealand and Fiji), *Macleayania* gen.n. (type species: *Soronia amphotiformis* Reitter, 1880 from Australia), *Pleoronia* gen.n. (type species: *Lobiopa discedens* Sharp, 1890 from Guatemala), *P. tuberculata* sp.n. from Brazil, *Soronia dorrigoi* sp.n. from Australia, *S. glabra* sp.n. from Réunion, *S. madagascarensis* sp.n. from Madagascar and *Stenoronia librodoriformis* gen. et sp.n. from Paraguay. Synonymy of *Soronia* Erichson, 1843 and *Platipidia* Broun, 1893, syn.n. is proposed. *Nitidula insularis* Laporte, 1840 is designated as a type species for *Cerophorus* Laporte, 1840. The composition of of the *Soronia* complex of genera, differences of it from the closest groups, historical data and probable phyletic connections of it are regarded.

РЕЗЮМЕ: В статье описаны новые таксоны, а именно: *Hisparonia* gen.n. (типовой вид: *Soronia hystrix* Sharp, 1876 из Новой Зеландии и Фиджи), *Macleayania* gen.n. (типовой вид: *Soronia amphotiformis* Reitter, 1880 из Австралии), *Pleoronia* gen.n. (типовой вид: *Lobiopa discedens* Sharp, 1890 из Гватемалы), *P. tuberculata* sp.n. из Бразилии, *Soronia dorrigoi* sp.n. из Австралии, *S. glabra* sp.n. из Реюньона, *S. madagascarensis* sp.n. из Мадагаскара и *Stenoronia librodoriformis* gen. et sp.n. из Парагвая. Предложена синонимия *Soronia* Erichson, 1843 и *Platipidia* Broun, 1893, syn.n. Типовым видом *Cerophorus* Laporte, 1840 обозначен *Nitidula insularis* Laporte, 1840. Рассмотрены состав, отличия от ближайших групп, данные об историческом развитии и вероятные филлетические связи комплекса родов *Soronia*.

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Introduction

The *Soronia* complex was preliminarily defined by A.G. Kirejtshuk [1988] as a part of the tribe Nitidulini. The complex should be regarded as a part of the composition of the subfamily Nitidulinae from the Nitidulin lineage of the family (consisting of 4–5 groups here recognized as subfamilies: Nitidulinae, Cillaeinae, Cryptarchinae, Cybocephalinae and, likely Meligethinae). The tribe Nitidulini is diverse and includes some groups certainly related and which can be treated as separated generic complexes. The group of related genera similar to *Soronia* Erichson, 1843 represents one of these complexes without clear expression of any trend in structural transformation, which can be interpreted as an evidence of a more recent origin [such as what are traceable in the *Nitidula*, *Aethina*, *Thalycra* and *Pocadius* complexes as well as in other tribes of the subfamily (see the publications by J. Jelínek and A.G. Kirejtshuk listed in the References)]. Externally most species of the core of the complex (members of the genera *Soronia* and *Lobiopa* Erichson, 1843) are rather similar to the probable ancestors from the Jurassic Meligethiellinae [Kirejtshuk & Ponomarenko, 1990]. As a result of recent study, the structure of the complex was changed [Kirejtshuk, 1995; Jelínek 1999] via the transfer of the genera *Atarphia* Reitter, 1884 and *Physoronia* Reitter, 1884 from this complex to another complex of the Nitidulin lineage. New data has prompt-

ed a revision of the generic concept and composition of the complex, which should be regarded as a next step for a complete revision of the genera of this complex of the World Nitidulinae fauna.

Material

The writer has obtained some chances to study named and unnamed specimens from different collections of Europe, North America and Australia, and he used for this paper the specimens from the following collections:

ANIC — Australian National Insect Collection, Canberra (Division of Entomology, C.S.I.R.O.); BMNH — Natural History Museum, London (formerly British Museum of Natural History); CNC — Canadian National Collections (Biosystematics Research Institute), Ottawa; FMNH — Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago; MMS — Macleay Museum at Sydney University; MVM — Museum of Victoria, Melbourne; NMW — Naturhistorisches Museum in Wien; NRS — Naturhistoriska Riksmuseet, Stockholm; QMB — Queensland Museum, Brisbane; SAM — South Australian Museum, Adelaide; SMNS — Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde, Stuttgart; USNM — United States National Museum, Smithsonian Institute, Washington; ZISP — Zoological Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Saint Petersburg; ZMB — Zoologisches Museum at Humboldt-University, Berlin.

The writer feels a pleasant duty to mention people who assisted him in getting the specimens for his study, however, this list will be too large. Nevertheless, it is impossible to miss the mention of persons provided him with the specimens itemized in the text, namely: R.W. Aldridge (BMNH), M.V.L. Barclay (BMNH), M.J.D. Brendell (BMNH), B. Gill (CNC), P.M. Hammond (BMNH), F. Hieke (ZMB), W. Horning (MMS), M. Jäch (NMW), B. Jäger (ZMB), M. Janczyk (NMW), J.F. Lawrence (ANIC), P. Lindskog (NRS), E.G. Matthews (SAM), G Monteith (QMB), A.F. Newton (FMNH), J. Pakaluk (USNM), T. Pape (NRS), W. Schawaller (SMNS), H. Schömann (NMW), A. Smetana (CNC), M. Thayer (FMNH), M. Uhlig (ZMB), N.Vanderberg (USNM), B. Viklund (NRS), K. Walker (MVM) and H. Wendt (ZMB). Besides, the writer is thankful to C. Carlton (Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge) and R.A.B. Leschen (New Zealand Arthropod Collection, Landcare Research, Auckland) for the discussion on taxonomy of the *Soronia*-complex in connection with larval characters of *Hisparonia hystrix* comb. n. during the meeting in London in 2002. A.R. Cline, student of the Louisiana State University, visited Saint Petersburg in May of 2003, took part in the preparation of some parts of descriptions of two new species, and therefore his contribution was recognized in the authorship of these new species.

Taxonomic part

COMPOSITION OF THE COMPLEX. According to the present interpretation the *Soronia* complex of genera includes four new generic taxa proposed herein as well as the following genera:

1. *Amphotis* Erichson, 1843: 290 [Palaearctic and Nearctic regions — 5 species; type species: *Nitidula marginata* Fabricius, 1781];

2. *Annachramus* Kirejtshuk, 1995: 46 [Capean region — 2 species; type species: *Perilopa vestita* Erichson, 1843];

3. *Lobiopa* Erichson, 1843: 291 (=*Cerophorus* Laporte, 1840: 10; type species: *Nitidula insularis* Laporte, 1840, here designated) [Nearctic and Neotropical regions — approximately 20 species — type species: *Lobiopa cimicina* Erichson, 1843, designated by Parsons, 1943];

4. *Soronia* Erichson, 1843: 277 (=*Platipidia* Broun, 1893: 1075, **syn.n.**) s.str. [Palaearctic, Nearctic (including Mexico), Indo-Malayan, Australian, Novozealandian, Novocaledonian, Afrotropical, Capean and Madagascarean (including Bourbon) regions — more than 40 species, type species: *Nitidula punctatissima* Illiger in Schneider, 1794, designated by Parsons, 1943];

5. *Omosiphila* Kirejtshuk, 1990: 85 [Indo-Malayan region: Indonesia — 1 species — *O. peltoidea* (Kirejtshuk, 1990)];

6. *Ornosia* Grouvelle, 1899: 139 [Madagascarean region — 1 species — *O. sexpustulata* Grouvelle, 1899];

7. *Sebastianiella* Kirejtshuk, 1995: 38 [Capean region –4 species; type species: *Lobiopa raffrai* Grouvelle, 1896];

8. *Temnoracta* Kirejtshuk, 1988: 85 [Madagascarean region — 1 species — *T. accliva* Kirejtshuk, 1988].

All these taxa are rather similar and probably closely related to one another, but some taxa (*Soronia*, *Omosiphila*, *Lobiopa* and *Pleoronia* gen.n.) are particularly similar and with very weak hiati between them, and therefore it is possible to recognize only subgeneric rank for these four taxa (*Omosiphila* was initially proposed as a subgenus). At the same time the characteristics of the most taxa of the complex are very comparable, and only *Soronia* with much wider distribution than any other group of complex shares many characters with any or some other taxa. In this situation it seems reasonable to regard all considered taxa of the complex with the same rank till getting new data in future.

NOTES ON SYNONYMY. The name of *Platipidia* Broun, 1893 (type species: *Platipidia asperella* Broun, 1893, by monotypy) was proposed for the species, which has no character allowing to distinguish it from the rest members of *Soronia* as a secluded taxon of generic or subgeneric rank.

DIAGNOSIS OF THE COMPLEX. Members of the *Soronia* complex of genera is represented by the rather archaic body forms, bearing many plesiotypic features in the structure and bionomy. The complex is characterized by the subovoid and slightly to moderately convex dorsum with more or less even contour, diffused dorsal puncturation [including elytra (although *Amphotis* and *Sebastianella* have the more or less distinct longitudinal ribs and striate puncturation on elytra)], antennae frequently with enlarged scape and 3-segmented unmodified club, dilatations over antennal insertions, antennal grooves distinct and strongly impressed, strongly widened and flattened apex of the prosternal process, complete to nearly complete elytra covering at least the majority of the pygidium, usually expressed subpara-

mental grooves, distinct arcuate lines at anterior corners of the ventrites as a continuation of line along the anterior edge of each ventrite, protibia with widely rounded and very finely crenulate outer apical corner, narrow tarsomeres with faint/obsolete lobes, narrow to moderately widened meso- and metatibiae with borders along outer edges bearing thin and frequently short setae, distinct empodium (plainly visible between simple tarsal claws), moderately large and flattened lobes of the tegmen and penis trunk as well as by the generalized ovipositor structure. The most frequently expressed and distinct character of the complex is the widely rounded, not projecting and finely crenulate outer apical corner of the protibia (only species of *Amphotis* have outer subapical corner of protibia more or less projecting anteriorly, but with type of crenellation as in other species of the complex). Other characters listed above have various distributions among other complexes of the tribe Nitidulini. Sexual dimorphism is expressed in the shape of scape, one of pairs to all pairs of tibiae, apices of pygidium and hypopygidium as well as in the development of mandibles.

Very close relationship of this complex should be recognized to the *Phenolia* complex [Kirejtshuk & Kvamme, 2002]. Both show some characters, which are more characteristic of one of complexes and represented in one or few members of another. Besides, they have some bionomical and ecological differences — the former is more associated with tree sap and fungi on trees, but the latter is more usual in decaying fruits and leaf litter. The most stable structural character is visible in the shape of tibiae, especially in their apex (members of the *Phenolia* complex have the outer subapical corner of tibia more or less acute and more or less projecting distally).

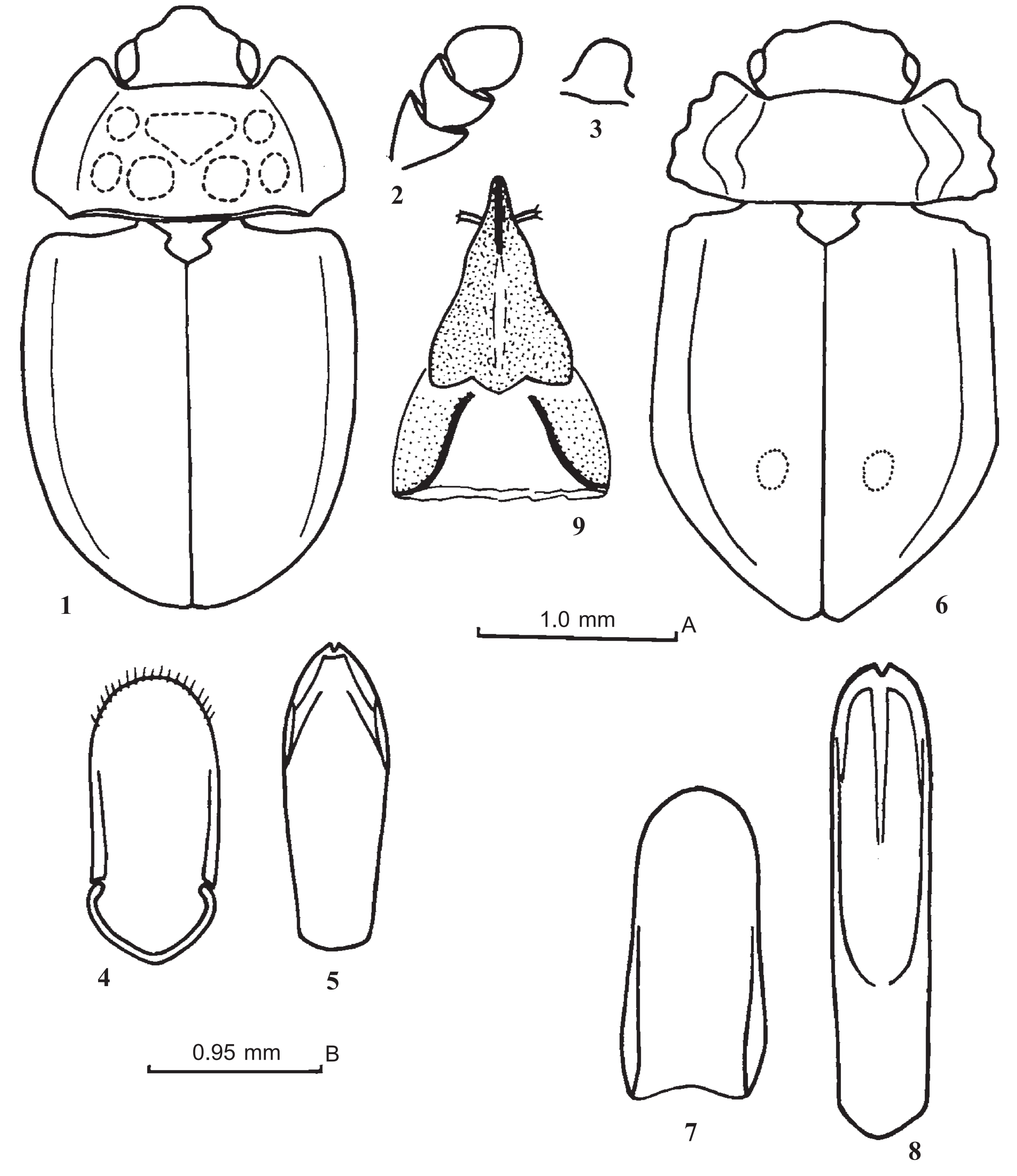
The members of the considered complex in the composition defined above have also a greater or smaller similarity to some genera. They, particularly some representatives of *Lobiopa*, are in first turn similar to the species of *Prometopia* Erichson, 1843 and *Parametopia* Reitter, 1884 [*Prometopia* complex, closest to the considered complex] by the slightly convex dorsum and subflattened underside, more or less even dorsal integument, widely explanate pronotal and elytral sides and wide hypomera and epipleura, widely rounded outer subapical corner, narrow tarsi, unmodified genitalia of both sexes and some other characters, however, the lastly mentioned genera differ from groups of the considered complex in the larger head with slightly raised dilatation over the antennal insertions, widely separated of all pairs of coxae, very large mentum strongly widened at base, flattened prosternal process, not excavated distal part of the mesosternum and subtruncate to very shallowly emarginate posterior edge of the metasternum between coxae . The both genera of the complex under consideration and the two mentioned genera have a strong resemblance to *Ipidia* complex [*Ipidia* Erichson, 1843; *Perilopa* Erichson, 1843; *Platychora* Erichson, 1843; *Psilotus* Fischer von Waldheim, 1829 and *Taracta* Murray, 1867], perhaps, closely related to both *Soronia* and *Prometopia* complexes. However, *Ipidia* is very distict in the not so widened apex of the prosternal process, joined intercoxal and submesocoxal lines, which are rather deviating from the posterior edges of the mesocoxae (it has most resemblance to *Amphotis*, but also with the narrowly explanate pronotal and elytral side, very different antennae, lack of subparamental depressions, widely separated meso- and metacoxae and so on); *Platychora* and *Taracta* are different in the (sub) truncate elytral apices, longer and modified antennomeres, larger and much wider head with slightly raised dilatation over the antennal insertions, very wide mentum and rectilinearly deviating submetacoxal lines; *Psilotus* and, apparently, *Perilopa* are quite distinct due to their longitudinal sculpture on elytra, last maxillary palpomere strongly widened apically, completely closed procoxal cavities, distance between mesocoxae broader than that between metacoxae.

Taxa of the *Perilopsis* complex [*Epuraeopsis* Reitter, 1875; *Perilopsis* Reitter, 1875; *Testudoraea* Kirejtshuk, 1986 and *Cratonura* Reitter, 1875] have also some similarities to the species of the complex under consideration in body shape, type of integument, frequent occurrence of membraneous window or depression on the dorsal surface of mandibles and genitalia of both sexes, looking as small members of the *Soronia* complex with the narrow prosternal process, submesocoxal lines following closely posterior edge of coxal cavities and long legs with comparatively wide tarsi.

Mouth parths of representatives of the complex — mentum, ligula, palpi and mandibles — are rather uniform and scarcely modified from a probable ancestor type. R.A. Crowson [1981, 1995] pointed out that membraneous windows (cavities, pockets) on the dorsal surface of the mandible of sap beetles [known in *Soronia grisea* (Linnaeus, 1758), *S. asperella*, *Hisparonia hystrix* (Sharp, 1876), comb.n., *Perilopsis sp*. from New Guinea, some Meligethinae] could be served for transportation of fungal spores and drew analogy of this feature in different sap beetles (*Soronia* and *Perilopsis* complexes and Meligethinae) and other groups (Derodontidae, Sphindidae, Boganiidae, Cavognathidae etc.) with transition of spores and pollen. Nevertheless, this feature is rather morpho-genetically coordinated with other head sclerites, in particular it seems that the membraneous window or depression on mandible is congruous with the antero-lateral corners of frons and large scape. Other functions of it (including transporatation of spores and pollen) seem to be complementary.

The subparamental grooves or lines are characteristic of many representatives of the complex as well as of many groups mentioned for the diagnosis this complex. This structure has rather strong expression in Helotidae [Kirejtshuk, 2000].

PHYLETIC RELATIONSHIP OF THE COMPLEX. Many of the Caenozoic fossils of Nitidulidae were treated as the forms allied to this complex. They are members of the palaeoendemic genera *Oligamphotis* Théobald, 1937 (Oligocene) and *Omositoidea* Schaufuss, 1891 (Oligocene), as well as the genera *Soronia*



Figs. 1–9. Nitidulini: 1–5 — *Soronia dorogoi* sp.n. (1 — body with outline of explanate sides of pronotum and elytra as well as with intermitted contour of depressions on pronotum, dorsal; 2 — antennal club; 3 — scape; 4 — tegmen, ventral; 5 — penis trunk, dorsal); 6–9 — *Hisparonia hystrix* comb.n. (6 — body with outline of explanate sides of pronotum and elytra as well as with dotted contour of yellowish spots in distal half of elytra, dorsal; 7 — tegmen, ventral; 8 — penis trunk, dorsal; 9 — ovipositor, ventral). Scales: A — to figs. 1, 6; B — to figs. 2–5, 7–9.

Рис. 1–9. Nitidulini: 1–5 —*Soronia dorogoi* sp.n. (1 — тело с очертанием отогнутых боков переднеспинки и надкрылий, а также с прерывистым контуром вдавлений на переднеспинке, сверху; 2 — булава усиков; 3 — скапус; 4 — тегмен, снизу; 5 — ствол пениса, сверху); 6–9 — *Hisparonia hystrix* comb.n. (6 — тело с очертанием отогнутых боков переднеспинки и надкрылий, а также с пунктирным очертанием желтых пятен в задней половине надкрылий, сверху; 7 — тегмен, снизу; 8 — ствол пениса, сверху; 9 — яйцеклад, снизу). Масштабы: А — к рис. 1, 6; В — к рис. 2–5, 7–9.

(Oligocene) and *Amphotis* (Oligocene and Miocene) represented in the recent fauna. Besides, many of extinct Caenozoic species for now described and put to the genus *Nitidula* Fabricius, 1775 [Heer, 1847, 1862; Scudder, 1900; Klebs, 1910; Meunier, 1922 — see also catalogue on the WEB-page by A.G. Ponomarenko & A.G. Kirejtshuk [2003]: <httm://www.zin.ru/Animalia/Coleoptera/rus/PALEOSYS.HTM> and <httm://www.zin.ru/Animalia/Coleoptera/eng/PALEOSYS. HTM>] look like members of the *Soronia* complex rather than those of the *Nitidula* complex. External similarity of most members of the *Soronia* complex to the probable ancestors from the Jurassic Meligethiellinae (Peltidae: Kirejtshuk & Ponomarenko, 1990) allows to presume a conservative and archaic character of structures in this complex of genera or even the closer relationship between this complex and the mentioned Jurassic group from the superfamily Cleroidea. The world-wide distribution of the basic taxon of the complex (genus*Soronia*) and primitive bionomic links with exduced tree sap also support the opinion on its archaic appearance and comparatively ancient origin. Finally, members of the complex share some archaic characters with different groups of various complexes. Thus, the complex under consideration should be interpreted as a group with primitive features having maintained from the time of formation or early stages of diversifications of Nitidulidae as a whole.

The genera not included in the complex but considered in the above diagnosis appear to have either plesiotypic or convergent similarity to the members of the complex. A further study should bring additional data which will allow to a certain degree to clarify this dilemma. Perhaps, placement of some of them will be changed. Nevertheless, a close relationship of the *Soronia* and *Phenolia* complexes, which became distinct at least in the early Miocene [Kirejtshuk & Ponomarenko, 1990], seems quite evident, and both complexes have some difference in ecological preference (see above).

Hisparonia **gen.n.**

Type species: *Soronia hystrix* Sharp, 1876: 26.

NOTES. This genus is represented by the only species, and therefore the description of it overlaps with the description of species (“*descriptio generica specifica*”).

DIAGNOSIS. This form differs from all the members of the *Soronia* complex of genera in the characteristic pubescence of the dorsum presented not only by the very dense and diffuse hairs, but also by the very long, erect spines with stump and enlarged apices (markedly longer than tarsal claws) and very long interfacetal setae nearly as raised as spines on the remainder of dorsum. Another peculiar feature of this new genus is the completely outstanding pronotal shape with an undulate excision at the middle of each lateral edge. In contrast to most members of the *Soronia* complex, *Hisparonia hystrix* comb.n. has the strongly enlarged dilatation over the antennal isertions. Finally, all members of the complex, except the form here considered, never have so long interfacetal setae, deep undulate excision at the middle of lateral edges of the pronotum, very unclear dorsal puncturation and so coarse sculpture of the dorsal integument [although the interfacetal setae of *Annachramus* rather long and dense, but not so long as in *Hisparonia*].

The type species of this new genus resembles *Macleayania amphotiformis* comb.n. (see below) rather than any other representatives of the complex, differing from the latter, except peculiar dorsal pubescence, in the somewhat smaller and subunicolorous body (see descriptions of the type species of both genera), tuberculate pronotum and elytra, indistinct dorsal puncturation and not smooth sculpture on interspaces between punctures of the dorsum, markedly shorter head, very long and more stout interfacetal setae, strongly undulate pronotal sides, not subexplanate elytral apices, rounded outer edge of the somewhat longer scape, shorter antennal club, subparallel-sided antennal grooves, lack of distinct subparamental ridges, narrower femora with usual base and convex posterior edge of the metafemur. Besides, the epipleura of *Hisparonia hystrix* comb.n. do not reach elytral apices, while those of *M. amphotiformis* distinctly and widely reach elytral apices. These two new genera (*Hisparonia* and *Macleayania*) are distinct from all other groups of the complex in the peculiar labrum (almost completely concealed under frons), very wide epipleura sloping downward externally. At the same time the labrum of *Hisparonia* looks like a narrow subparallel-sided stripe without a trace of distinct median excision and with a pair of the paramedial setae, much longer than setae at the middle of the labrum, while that of *Macleayania* has a view of a stripe enlarged at the middle and with a close and short median excision, and the paramedial setae are slightly longer than the setae disposed at the middle of the labrum.

Regarding other species of the complex (without *M. amphotiformis* comb.n.), *H. hystrix* comb.n. looks like rather similar to *Soronia dorrigoi* sp.n., in particular by the body shape and body size as well by the type of dorsal pubescence, however, it is well distinct from the latter in the characters listed in this diagnosis (see below) and the diagnosis of *S. dorrigoi* sp.n. (see below).

In dorsal pubescence of the rest representatives of this complex there are usual hairs, between which separate and at most semierect squamae (much shorter than tarsal claws) are sometimes dispersed, and only *Soronia dorrigoi* sp.n. has partially similar combination of hairs of different types (see below).

Except the features of the pronotal shape, pubescence, sculpture and puncturation of the integument, long and stout interfacetal setae, strongly raised dilatation over the antennal insertions and very distinct labrum discussed above, as well as the featues of the shorter anterior part of the head and peculiar coloration, *Hisparonia* also differs from:

— *Amphotis* in the much smaller body, lack of elongate ribs on the elytra, tuberculate pronotum and elytra, antennal grooves rectilinear and subparallel-sided, distance between metacoxae markedly greater than that between mesocoxae, not complete epipleura, scape with arcuate outer edge, elongate oval antennal club with the antennomere 9 not markedly larger than the rest antennomeres of club, mentum not narrowest at base (mentum of *Amphotis* is usually widened anteriorly);

— *Annachramus* in the smaller and not so elongate body, tuberculate pronotum and elytra, wider subexplanate parts of pronotal and elytral sides, more impressed subparamental depressions and subparallel-sided and rectilinear antennal grooves;

— *Lobiopa* in the smaller body, more convex dorsum, tuberculate pronotum and elytra, distance between metacoxae slightly broader than antennal club (distance between meta-

coxae of *Lobiopa* is usually 2–3 times as broad as antennal club, although some *Lobiopa* have rather narrowly separated coxae of all pairs) and elongate eyes;

— *Omosiphila* in the much smaller body, more convex dorsum, tuberculate pronotum and elytra, distance between metacoxae only slightly wider than antennal club and markedly narrower than femora (distance between metacoxae of *Omosiphila* is more than twice as wide as antennal club and about as wide as metatibiae), antennal grooves rectilinear and subparallel-sided;

— *Ornosia* in the much smaller and not elongate body, tuberculate pronotum and elytra, last labial palpomere not strongly widened apically, not strongly expressed subparamental lines, subrectilinear and subparallel-sided antennal grooves, more narrowly separated meso- and metacoxae, distance between metacoxae slightly broader than antennal club (distance between metacoxae of *Ornosia* is about twice as broad as antennal club);

— *Pleoronia* gen.n. in the much smaller and not elongate body, more convex dorsum, tuberculate elytra, distance between metacoxae slightly broader than antennal club and broader than femora (distance between metacoxae of *Pleoronia* is much broader than antennal club and narrower than femora), epipleura much wider than antennal club, shorter hypopygidium (hypopygidium of *Pleoronia* is about 1.5–2.0 times as long as preceding ventrite) and comparatively shorter legs;

— *Sebastianiella* in the smaller and oval body, tuberculate elytra, distance between metacoxae less than twice broader than that between mesocoxae and slightly broader than antennal club (metacoxae of *Sebastianiella* are much more than twice as broadly separated as mesocoxae and about 3 times wider than antennal club); last labial palpomeres not narrowed apically, narrow lobes of hypomera behind procoxae (lobes of hypomera behind procoxae of *Sebastianiella* are about as wide as antennal club) and lack of paramedical depressions on mesosternum;

— *Soronia* (=*Platipidia* syn.n.) in the usually smaller body, more convex dorsum, tuberculate elytra, distance between metacoxae slightly broader than antennal club (distance between metacoxae of *Soronia* is 2–3 times as broad as antennal club), subrectilinear and subparallel-sided antennal grooves;

— *Stenoronia* gen.n. in the short oval, less convex, much smaller and distinctly pubescent body with much shorter elytra, tuberculate pronotum and elytra, much wider and subhorizontal epipleura (epipleura of *Stenoronia* are markedly narrower than antennal club), subparallel-sided antennal grooves, shallow emargination of posterior edge of the metasternum between coxae, very wide apex of the prosternal process, distances between different pairs of coxae rather different (procoxae and mesocoxae of *Stenoronia* are equally separated and metacoxae of the latter are somewhat more broadly separated);

— *Temnoracta* in the much smaller and short oval body, widely explanate pronotal and elytral sides, distance between metacoxae about as great as width of antennal club, longer antennae (antennae of *Temnoracta* are only about 2/3 as long as head droad), moderately raised mandibles, lack of parocular ridges and large concavity between them.

ETYMOLOGY. The name of this genus is formed from the generic name of leaf beetles "*Hispa*" and end of the generic name of sap beetles "*Soronia*".

Hisparonia hystrix (Sharp, 1876), **comb.n.**
Figs. 6–9.

= *Soronia hystrix* Sharp, 1876: 26

New Zealand: 6 ex. (NMW) — "*Soronia hysrix* D.S., Greymounth Helms", "Sharp, 1890, Neuseeland"; 1 ex. (NMW) — "Koltze, 1890, Mexico", "122", "N. Zealand"; 3 ex. (BMNH) — "New Zealand Broun Coll. Brit. Mus. 1922-482", "Tairula", "308"; 1 ex. (BMNH) — "New Zealand, Broun, Coll. Brit. Mus. 1922-482", "Pokena", "308"; 24 ex. (CNC, ZISP) — "N. Zealand, BR, Nelson Lakes N.P., Lake Rotoiti, Dec.19,1983, L. Masner"; 7 ex. (CNC) — "N. Zealand, BR, Canaan, Harwood Hole, Abel Tasman N.P., Dec.22,1983, L. Masner"; 1 ex. (FMNH) — "New Zealand", "Koebele Collection"; 2 ex. (FMNH) — "...S. Isl., B.R., Nelson Lks N.P., N slope Mt. Robert, Speargrass tr., 880 m, (14−21)-XII-1984", "*Nothophagus spp.* forest, log & leaf litter, A.Newton & M. Thayer"; 4 ex. (FMNH, SMNS, ZISP) −"...S. Isl., B.R., Nelson Lks N.P., LK. Rotoiti. St. Arnaud Track, 670 m, (14-XII-1984)−(6-I-1985)", "*Nothophagus spp.* forest, log & leaf litter, A.Newton & M. Thayer"; 1 ex. (FMNH) −"...S. Isl., NN, Takara R. Cobb Dam. Albestos For. Walk., 410 m, 2-I-1985", "Nothophagus-podo-hdwd. for. log & leaf litter, A. Newton & M. Thayer"; **Fiji**: 1 ex. (CNC) — "FIJI: Levu, Mt.Tomanivi base, Navai, 1000 m, 22.VIII.1978, S. & J. Peck", "berlese fruit & fungi, forest".

REDESCRIPTION. Length 2.4–3.0, breadth 1.4–1.6, height 0.8–1.0 mm. Rather convex dorsally and moderately ventrally; subunicolourous dark brown to black, except one paramedial yellow spot in distal 2/3 of each elytron (and frequently 1–2 somewhat lighter spots along lateral edge of distal half of each elytron), subexplanate pronotal and elytral edges, epipleura as well as appendages, although antennal clubs usually blackish (elytral spots, pronotal and elytral sides, epipleura and tarsi usually somewhat lighter than remainder of appendages); rather dull; dorsum with very dense, very long, erect blackish spines with stump and enlarged apices, about as long as antennomere 3 and as long as distance between their insertions (a pair of paramedial brushes of very dense and stout spines on pronotum and 3 brushes on each elytron), besides, head and pronotum with sparse squamose golden hairs with blunt apices, 1.5 times longer than thin hairs; underside without squamose hairs and with thin hairs often more conspicuous and sparser.

Head with very small and dense indistinct punctures, and extremely fine and dense microreticulation in anterior part; posterior part of head, scutellum and pronotum with fine and sometimes almost distinct punctures, somewhat smaller than eye facets, interspaces between them somewhat less than a puncture diameter, densely microreticulated on head and more or less smoothed on pronotum and scutellum. Elytra with small, extremely dense and almost distinct irregular (rasp-like) punctures, different in size but in general smaller and denser than those on head, interspaces between punctures rather smooth. Surface of pygidium and ventrites somewhat similar to that on elytra, but with punctures somewhat more regular and subequal in size and partly tuberculate on pygidium, interspaces between them about half a puncture diameter or narrower and densely microreticulated. Pro-, meso- and metasterna with diffuse and shallow punctures, somewhat as large as eye facets, interspaces between them rather smoothly microreticulated.

Head slightly transversely excavate behind antennal insertions, about 3/5 as long from truncate anterior edge of frons to file on vertex as the distance between moderately large eyes (consisting of moderately large facets), with temples not extended beyond level of outer edge of eyes. Labrum scarcely exposed, scarcely excised at the middle and only with a pair of paramedial and very long setae, more widely separated than width of antennal club [other (4–6) much shorter setae disposed at the middle]. Mandibles with simple apices moderately exposed. Antennae slightly shorter than head wide, their club composing about 1/4 of total antennal length; scape slightly shorter than wide and with arcuate outer edge; antennomere 4 slightly shorter than antennomere 2 and twice shorter than antennomere 3. Pronotum rather convex, subex-

planate at sides (as widely subexplanate as width of antennal flagella) and with an extremely narrow border along edges. Elytra moderately vaulted at sides and flattened at disk, narrowly explanate along lateral edges (as widely explanate as those of pronotum); their apices separately rounded and forming a sutural corner and their subsutural lines quite distinct in distal third and subparallel. Pygidium widely rounded at apex, although female pygidium more subflattened and slightly expanded before apex.

Last labial palpomere elongate and narrowed to suboblique apex (about twice as long as thick). Subparamental lines weak and follow closely antennal grooves. Antennal grooves subparallel-sided to somewhat rectilinearly convergent. Prosternum with process slightly curved along coxae. Mesosternum feebly, but distinctly carinate. Distance between mesocoxae markedly broader and that between metacoxae about twice as broad as that between procoxae. Metasternum subflattened, somewhat longer than prosternum with process, its anterior edge between coxae straight and posterior one between coxae shallowly and broadly emarginate. Submesocoxal lines deviating from posterior edge of cavity only just at lateral corners of metasternum. Ventrite 1 nearly as long as ventrites 2–4 combined and hypopygidium slightly longer than ventrites 2–4 taken separately. Epipleura gradually narrowed distally and not reached elytral apices, slightly sloping laterally and about 4 times as wide as antennal club.

Tibiae subtriangular, somewhat wider (especially fore ones) than antennal club with unprojecting subapical corner, protibia finely crenulate along outer edge, meso- and metatibiae with short and dense spines. Femora with usual outline, pro- and mesofemora about 1.5 times, but metafemur almost twice wider than antennal club and about 2.5 times as long as wide, all femora wider than distance between metacoxae. Tarsi narrowly lobed, slightly wider than antennal flagella, claws long and somewhat bulged at base.

Aedeagus and ovipositor moderately sclerotized.

BIONOMY. G. Kuschel [1990] recorded this species for suburban environment of New Zealand on sooty mould of *Leptospermum scoparium*. R.A. Crowson [1995] pointed out that adults and larvae of this species live on mildew-type fungi on leaves of shrubs.

NOTES. This species was described from New Zealand, where it is a characteristic member of the fauna of this region. However, the capture of it in Fiji is a first record beyond the Novozealandian region.

Macleayania gen.n.

Type species: *Soronia amphotiformis* Reitter, 1880.

NOTES. This genus is represented by the only species, and therefore the description of it overlaps with the description of species (“*descriptio generica specifica*”).

DIAGNOSIS. This new genus is distinct from all the genera of the complex in the much wider femora (metafemora is about twice longer than wide), which, in contrast to the rest members of the complex, has rather wide base. The type species of this new genus shows the most resemblance to *Amphotis* species, including due to the general body shape and outlines of most sclerites, particularly subtruncate outer edge of the antennal scape, complete epipleura, antennal grooves subparallel-sided anteriorly and slightly arcuate posteriorly and so on, hovever, it is very distinct from them in the very conspicuous pubescence, lack of longitudinal ribs and seriate puncturation of elytra, nearly concealed labrum, distinct subparamental ridges, larger “axillary” triangle, more widely separated pro-, meso- and metacoxae, longer antennae with elongate oval and not modified antennal club as well as with rather elongate antennomeres of flagella, very wide femora with rather wide base, more steeply sloped epipleura.

As mentioned above, the type species of this new genus rather resembles also *Hisparonia hystrix* comb.n. These forms share the concealed labrum, strongly enlarged dilatation over the antennal insertions and very wide epipleura sloped downward laterally, but they are distinguished by the characters listed in the diagnosis of *Hisparonia* (see above) and also by the colour pattern.

Besides, the outline of pronotum and elytra as well as the type of sculpture of the integument and many other features in *Macleayania* gen.n. are rather similar to those in most species of *Lobiopa*, although *Macleayania amphotiformis* comb.n. is distinct from them in the large antennal scape, almost concealed labrum, acruate antennal grooves, epipleura reaching the elytral apices as a wide stripe, markedly shorter legs in general and very wide femora with wide base. *M. amphotiformis* has some resemblance to *Soronia*, but the type species of this new genus distinct from the latter in the not tuberculate surface of pronotum and elytra, particularly subtruncate outer edge of the antennal scape, complete epipleura, antennal grooves subparallel-sided anteriorly and slightly arcuate posteriorly, larger “axillary” triangle, wider and complete epiplera sloped downward, markedly shorter legs in general and very wide femora with wide base.

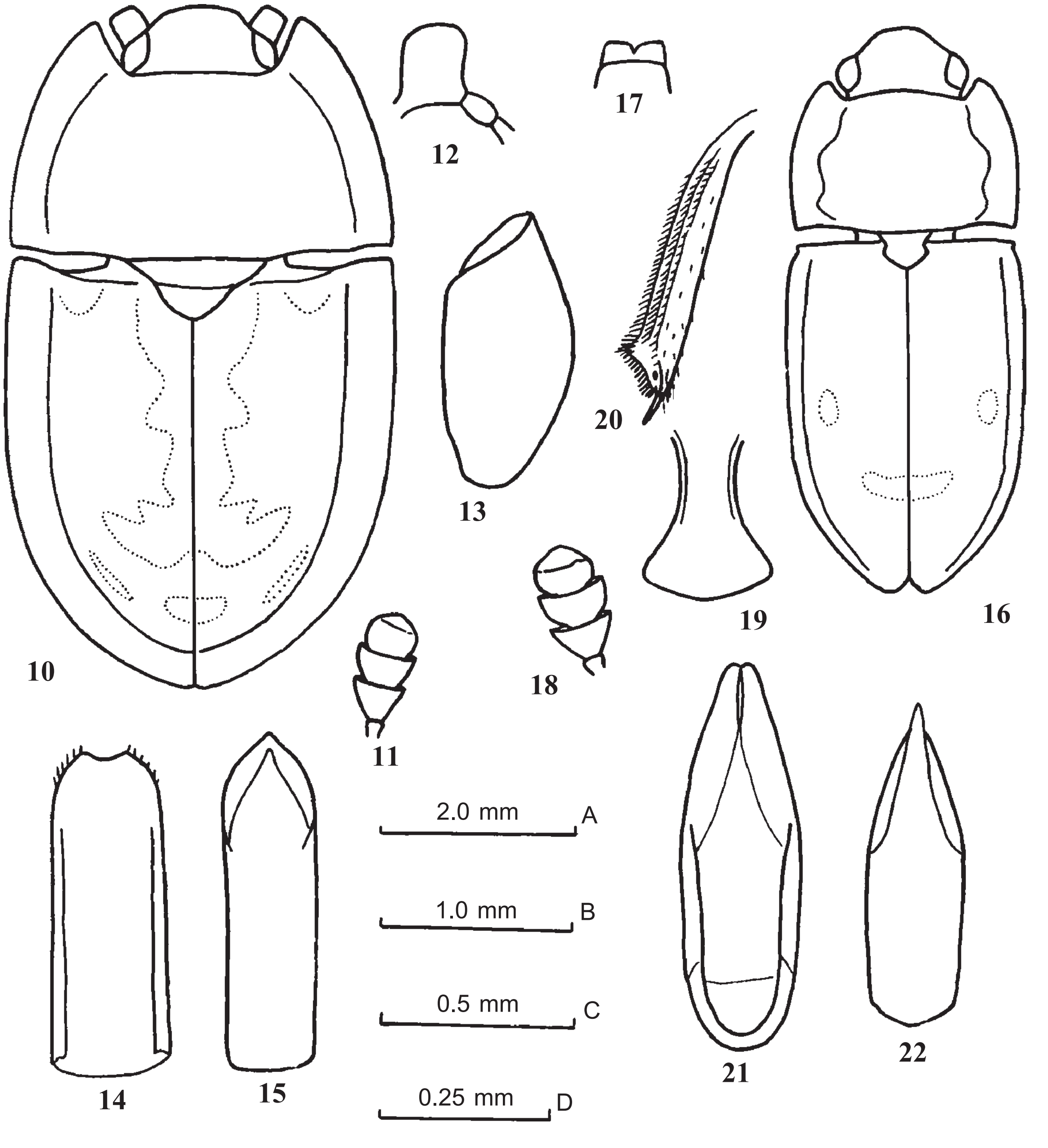
ETYMOLOGY. The name of this genus is devoted to the outstanding entomologist of the XIX century W.S. Macleay.

Macleayania amphotiformis (Reitter, 1880), **comb.n.**

Figs. 10–15.

= *Soronia amphotiformis* Reitter, 1880: 1.

Western Australia: 1 ex. (ZMB) — “Hamb. S.W. Austr.Exped., 1905, Stat. 88, Moora, 8.VIII”, named by Grouvelle as *Soronia amphotiformis*; **Australian Capical Territory**: 5 ex. — (ANIC, ZISP) — “Black Mtn., A.C.T., 13 Jan. 1970, K.R. Pullen” (24 Dec. 1970, 16 Nov. 1970); 2 ex. (ANIC) — “Black Mtn., A.C.T., 13 Dec. 1986, J. Muona”; 4 ex. (ANIC, ZISP) — “Black Mtn. Reserve, 17.XI.1970, under bark, S. Misko” (13.XI.1970, 12.X.70); 1 ex. (ANIC) — “F.C.T. Austr., Black Moutn., 1.8.1930, W.K. Hughes”; 1 ex. (ANIC) — “Black Mtn., A.C.T., 9 Sept. 1986, W. Dressler, ex leaf litter”; 1 ex. (ANIC) — “35.16S 149.06E, Black Mtn., SE slope, light trap, 14 Mar. 1988, A.A. Calder”; **New South Wales**: 15 ex. (ANIC, SMNS, ZISP) — “34.50S 142.34E, VIC, 7.3 km SW of Wemen, 25. Oct.—3 Nov.1988, T. Weir, J.F. Lawrence & M. Hansen”, “at light, Mallee”; **South Australia**: 2 ex. (ANIC) — “*Ancyrona vesca* Oll., S. Australia”, “on permanent loan from Macley Museum, Unversity of Sydney”; 1 ex. (ANIC) — “Bathurat, 6.05, H.G.C.”; 2 ex. (ANIC, ZISP) — “Whyalla, S.A., 11/51, E.T.S. ”, “J.G. Brooks Bequest 1976”; 3 ex. (MMS, ZISP) — “S. Austra”; 1 ex. (SAM) — “Port Lincoln, Blackburn”; 2 ex. (SAM) — “Adelaide, Blackburn”; 2 ex. (SAM) — “Birchip, 914/02”; 1 ex. (SAM) — “S. Austr.”; 1 ex. (ANIC) — “4.8 W Pacilla, 12 Jan. 1970, R.W. Taylor”, “Berlesate N184, Mallee”; 2 ex. (ANIC, ZISP), “Whyalla, S.A., 11/51 E.T.S.”, “J.G. Brooks Bequest 1976”; **Victoria**: 3 ex. (ANIC) — “Mallee, Hattah, April 1819”, “*Ancyrona lewisi* Reitter, Id. by H.J. Carter”; 1 ex. (ANIC) — “Kiata, V., 1/45, F.E.W.”, “J.G. Brooks Bequest 1976”; 2 ex. (MVM) — “Linda, V., Oct. 1922, F.E. Wilson”; 2 ex. (MVM) — “Kiata, V., 13.11.1925, F.E. Wilson”; 6 ex. (MVM) — “Mallee District, Victoria”; 1 ex. (MVM) — “Lake Hattah, Victoria, J.E. Dixon”; 1 ex. (MVM) — “Hattah, C. Oke, Vic.”; 1 ex. (MVM) — “Hattah, Walle, Vic.”; 2 ex. (MVM) — “See Lake, Goudie”; 1 ex. (ZISP) — “Victoria”; **Undefinite Australian state**: 1 ex. (ANIC), “Batturat, 6.05 H.G.C.”; 1 ex. (SAM), “K.G.Sound”; 1 male (NMW), “Australia, coll. Plason” (named by A. Grouvelle).



Figs. 10–22. Nitidulini: 10–15 — *Macleayania amfotiformis* comb.n. (10 — body with outline of explanate sides of pronotum and elytra as well as with dotted contour of light spots on elytra, dorsal; 11 — antennal club; 12 — scape; 13 — male metafemur, ventral; 14 — tegmen, ventral; 15 — penis trunk, dorsal); 16–22 — *Pleoronia tuberculata* sp.n. (16 — body with outline of explanate sides of pronotum and elytra as well as with dotted contour of light spots on elytra, dorsal; 17 — anterior part of head with labral lobes, dorsal; 18 — antennal club; 19 — prosternal process, ventral; 20 — male metatibia, dorsal; 21 — tegmen, ventral; 22 — penis trunk, dorsal. Scales: A — to fig. 16; B — to fig. 10; C — to figs. 17–22; D — to figs. 10–15.

Рис. 10–22. Nitidulini: 10–15 — *Macleayania amfotiformis* comb.n. (10 — тело с очертанием отогнутых боков переднеспинки и надкрылий, а также с пунктированным контуром светлых пятен на надкрыльях, сверху; 11 — булава усиков; 12 — скапус; 13 — заднее бедро самца, снизу; 14 — тегмен, снизу; 15 — ствол пениса, сверху); 16–22 — *Pleoronia tuberculata* sp.n. (16 — тело с очертанием отогнутых боков переднеспинки и надкрылий, а также с пунктированным контуром светлых пятен на надкрыльях, сверху; 17 — передний край головы с лопастями лабрума, сверху; 18 — булава усиков; 19 — отросток переднегруди, снизу; 20 — задняя голень самца, сверху; 21 — тегмен, снизу; 22 — ствол пениса, сверху. Масштабы: A — к рис. 16; B — к рис. 10; C — к рис. 17–22; D — к рис. 10–15.

REDESCRIPTION. Length 3.2–4.5, breadth 1.9–2.3, height 1.0–1.2 mm. Moderately convex dorsally and moderately ventrally; underside and appendages reddish; dorsum reddish brown to dark brown, but most part of head, median stripe and sides of pronotum as well as characteristic pattern on elytra reddish to nearly yellowish (lightened parts of dorsum varying to a great level); dorsum with very dense, recumbent or subrecumbent and moderately thin golden yellowish hairs, about as long as distance between their insertions; besides, dorsum with very long, vertically curved and squamose golden yellowish hairs, about twice as long as thin hairs, apices of which are pointed and closed to integument (squamose hairs regularly dispersed on head and pronotum, as separated as thin hairs, but they arranged on elytra in longitudinal rows, 1.5–2.0 times more broadly separated than these hairs in rows); underside with sparser, thinner and less conspicuous hairs.

Head, pronotum and metasternum with small and almost distinct punctures, markedly smaller than eye facets in diameter, interspaces between them 2–3 puncture diameters and smoothly microreticulated to completely smooth. Elytra with distinct and regular punctures, about as large as eye facets in diameter, interspaces between them about as broad as a puncture diameter and rather smoothed. Surface of pygidium and ventrites without clear puncturation, densely and contrastingly microreticulated. Prosternum with shallow punctures, somewhat smaller than eye facets in diameter, interspaces between them about as broad as a puncture diameter or narrower. Mesosternum with nearly distinct punctures, somewhat smaller than eye facets in diameter, interspaces between them rather contrastingly microreticulated.

Head slightly transversely excavate behind antennal insertions, somewhat shorter than distance between moderately large eyes (consisting of moderately large facets and well raised interfacetal setae), with temples not extended beyond level of outer edge of eyes. Mandibles with simple apices slightly exposed. Antennae slightly shorter than head wide, their club composing about 1/4 of total antennal length and nearly twice as long as wide; scape markedly shorter than wide; antenomeres of flagella about twice as long as wide, antennomere 4 much shorter than antennomere 2 and nearly twice shorter than antennomere 3. Pronotum rather convex, gently sloping and widely subexplanate at sides. Elytra moderately vaulted at sides and flattened at disk, widely explanate/subexplanate along lateral edges and apices (as widely explanate/subexplanate as lateral edges of pronotum); their apices forming a joint arc, their subsutural lines quite distinct only at apices and subparallel. Pygidium of both sexes widely rounded at apex.

Last labial palpomere narrowed to suboblique apex (slightly longer than thick). Antennal grooves subparallel-sided anteriorly and strongly curved posteriorly along subparamental ridges and depressions. Prosternum moderately medially convex and with process scarcely curved along coxae. Mesosternum gently vaulted along the middle in distal 2/3. Distance between mesocoxae slightly broader and that between metacoxae almost twice as broad as that between procoxae. Metasternum medially depressed in males and subflattened in females, about as long as prosternum with process, its posterior edge between coxae shallowly and broadly emarginate. Submesocoxal lines deviating from posterior edge of cavity and forming a comparatively large "axillary" triangle. Ventrite 1 nearly as long as ventrites 2–4 combined and hypopygidium slightly longer than ventrites 2–4 taken separately. Epipleura gradually narrowing distally and reaching elytral apices, slightly sloping laterally and about 4 times as wide as antennal club.

Legs comparatively short with very robust femora. Tibiae subtriangular, somewhat narrower than antennal club with unprojecting subapical corner, protibia finely crenulate along outer edge, meso- and metatibiae with short, thin and dense spines. Femora rather widened at base, pro- and mesofemora about 2.5 times, but metafemur nearly 3 times wider than antennal club and about twice as long as wide. Tarsi narrowly lobed, slightly wider than antennal flagella, claws long and somewhat bulged at base.

Aedeagus and ovipositor moderately sclerotized.

NOTES. A particular similarity of the type species of this new genus to the specialized myrmephilous species of *Amphotis* allows to make an assumption that it has some relationship to the latter and they both share a similar mode of life.

Pleoronia gen.n.

Type species: *Lobiopa discedens* Sharp, 1890.

DESCRIPTION. Elongate oval or elongate and moderately convex body with thin or both thin and subsquamose hairs present on dorsal surface, the latter disposed in longitudinal rows on elytra. Integument of dorsum with sparse fine and diffuse puncturation. Head transverse and with antennal lobes moderately developed, large and moderately faceted eyes with short interfacetal setae, without parocullar line. Mandibles well developed. Antennae 11-segmented with 3-segmented compact and oval club, scape slightly or moderately enlarged, antennomeres 2–4 longest in flagella. Pronotum somewhat transverse, trapezoidal at anterior edge and with a slight excision at each posterior corner basally, moderately explanate, more or less distinctly bordered along all edges, although at the middle of anterior edge border disappearing, disk with paramedial impressions and sometimes also with clear tubercles. Elytra 1 1/2 as long as combined width or longer, moderately explanate, gradually arcuate apices forming a small sutural corner, partially covering pygidium; epipleura moderately wide, gradually narrowing posteriorly and slightly elevated laterally (subhorizontal). Pygidium of both sexes widely rounded at apex. Antennal grooves deep with sharp inner edges, and subparallel-sided. Prosternum weakly convex and with subflattened intercoxal process (moderately to strongly widened posteriorly). Mesosternum feebly carinate. Metasternum about as long as prosternum or shorter, its posterior edge between metacoxae shallowly emarginate (or subrectilinear). Submeso- and submetacoxal lines follow closely posterior edge of cavities. Abdomen with ventrite 1 longest (somewhat longer than following 2 ventrites combined) and hypopygidium more or less shorter than ventrite 1, but longer than ventrites 2–4 individually. Tarsi of both sexes narrow, faintly lobed, claws long and simple, bisetose empodium small but distinct. Aedeagus of moderate size with tegmen projecting in a short apical bobe (which sometimes has a short median excision) and penis trunk with rounded to subacute apex and unpaired lobe covering the orifice. Ovipositor of generalized shape of sclerites and well-developed styli.

DIAGNOSIS. This group has the typical appearance which is characteristic of the *Soronia* complex of genera, sharing many characters with those in species of *Soronia*, *Omosiphila* and *Lobiopa*. The crucial differences between these 4 taxa can be formalized as following:

Pleoronia gen.n.

— antennal grooves subrectilinear and subparallel-sided;
— pronotal surface or both pronotal and elytral surface with depressions and weak tubercles;

— epipleura markedly wider than antennal club and weakly elevated laterally (subhorizontal);
— arcuate lines at anterior corners of all ventrites distinct;
— pubescence of dorsum consists of double hairs: thin uniformly dispersed and subrecumbent; thicker squamose hairs arranged in longitudinal rows on elytra and suberected;

Soronia
— antennal grooves more or less arcuate and convergent;
— pronotal surface with depressions and weak tubercles and elytral surface more or less smooth (only pronotum of *S. madagascarensis* sp. n. nearly evenly vaulted and without trace of both depressions and tubercles);
— epipleura slightly to moderately wider than antennal club and moderately elevated laterally (very rarely subhorizontal);
— arcuate lines at anterior corners of 2–5 ventrites not visible;
— pubescence of dorsum consists of double hairs: thin uniformly dispersed and subrecumbent; thicker squamose hairs arranged in longitudinal rows on elytra and suberected (sometimes dorsal pubescence is rather reduced);

Lobiopa
— antennal grooves subrectilinear and subparallelsided;
— pronotal and elytral surface even and without depressions or tubercles;
— epipleura markedly wider than antennal club and subhorizontal or declined laterally;
— arcuate lines at anterior corners of 2–5 ventrites not visible;
— pubescence of dorsum consists of very thin and short, slightly conspicuous hairs or of double hairs: thin uniformly dispersed and subrecumbent; thicker squamose hairs arranged in longitudinal rows on elytra and suberected;

Omosiphila
— antennal grooves arcuate and convergent;
— pronotal surface with depressions and weak tubercles and elytral surface more or less smooth;
— epipleura markedly wider than antennal club and subhorizontal laterally;
— arcuate lines at anterior corners of 2–5 ventrites not visible;
— pubescence of dorsum consists of very thin and short, slightly conspicuous hairs.

The members of this new genus differ from species of other genera of the complex in:
— *Amphotis* in the more slender body, lack of elongate ribs on the elytra, tuberculate pronotum, uniform puncturation on the dorsum, more widely separated meso- and metacoxae, distance between metacoxae markedly greater than that between mesocoxae, posterior edge of the metasternum between coxae very shallowly emarginate (posterior edge of metasternum between coxae of *Amphotis* is rather excised), not complete epipleura, scape with arcuate outer edge, elongate oval antennal club with the antennomere 9 not markedly larger than the rest antennomeres of club, mentum not narrowest at base (mentum of *Amphotis* is usually widened anteriorly);
— *Annachramus* in the more or less smoothed and less pubescent dorsum, tuberculate pronotum with clearer subparamental depressions, subparallel-sided and rectilinear antennal grooves and hypopygidium 1.5–2.0 times as long as the preceding ventrites (hypopygidium of *Annachramus* is only slightly longer than the preceding ventrites);
— *Hisparonia* gen.n. (see above);
— *Macleayania* gen.n. (see above);
— *Ornosia* in the tuberculate pronotum, last labial palpomere not strongly widened apically, not strongly impressed subparamental lines, subrectilinear and subparallel-sided antennal grooves, hypopygidium 1.5–2.0 times as long as the preceding ventrites (hypopygidium of *Ornosia* is only slightly longer than the preceding ventrites);
— *Sebastianiella* in the lack of elongate ribs on the elytra, tuberculate pronotum, uniform puncturation on the dorsum, distance between mesocoxae markedly broader than that between procoxae (mesocoxae of *Sebastianiella* are less broadly separated than procoxae), hypopygidium 1.5–2.0 times as long as the preceding ventrites (hypopygidium of *Sebastianiella* is only slightly longer than the preceding ventrites), last labial palpomeres not narrowed apically, narrow lobes of the hypomera behind procoxae (lobes of the hypomera behind procoxae of *Sebastianiella* are about as wide as antennal club) and lack of paramedical depressions on the mesosternum;
— *Stenoronia* gen.n. (see below);
— *Temnoracta* in the smaller and short oval body, elongate obsolete ribs on the elytra, uniform puncturation on the dorsum, longer antennae (antennae of *Temnoracta* are only about 2/3 as long as head droad), moderately raised mandibles, lack of parocular ridges and large concavity between them.

NOTES. Except the species here mentioned, this new genus includes also some other species from the Neotropical region, two of which were seen by the writer when A.R. Cline brought them for identification to Saint-Petersburg in May 2003. Therefore the above diagnosis was elaborated taking into consideration variability traced among all (described and undescribed) members of this new genus.

ETYMOLOGY. The name of this genus is formed from the Greek "*Pleon*" (more) and end of the generic name of sap beetles "*Soronia*".

Key to species

1a. Pronotum and elytra without clear tubercles, although pronotum with some paramedial depressions at lateral slopes; antennal club somewhat less 1 1/3 as long as wide; prosternal process subtruncate to subconcave at apex; subparamental lines quite distinct; brownish with clearer small yellowish spots on elytra. Male: metatibia somewhat convex at inner edge in proximal half; profemur with anterior edge and metafemur with posterior edge slightly concave. 5.5–7.3 mm. Guatemala .... *P. discedens* (Sharp, 1890), comb.n.

1b. Elytra without any trace of costae; pronotum and elytra with many weak and large but clear tubercles; antennal club about 1 1/2 as long as wide; prosternal process subangularly convex at apex; subparamental lines scarcely traced; dorsum subunicolorous dark brown to reddish brown, with less clear small lighter spots on elytra. Male: metatibia simple; pro-and metafemora of usual configuration (both anterior and posterior edges not concave). 5.2–5.5 mm. Brazil .... *P. tuberculata* sp.n.

Pleoronia discedens (Sharp, 1890), **comb.n.**
Figs. 23–31.

= *Lobiopa discedens* Sharp, 1890: 323.

1 **syntype**, ♀ (USNM) — "Capetillo, Guatemala, G.C. Champion", "*Lobiopa discedens*" (last label written by D. Sharp); 1 ♂ (USNM) — "Palin, Guat., May 1924", "W.M. Mann", "*Lobiopa discedens*";

REDESCRIPTION of MALE. Length 7.3, breadth 3.1, height 1.5 mm. Elongate; slightly convex dorsally and ventrally; dorsum chestnut brown with reddish to yellowish anterior part of head, pronotal sides, spots on elytra; underside and appendages also reddish to yellowish; rather shining;

body with thin and slightly conspicuous recumbent greyish yellow hairs, about 1.5 times longer than distance between their insertions, besides this, dorsum with more conspicuous, twice longer, squamose and subrecumbent hairs, arranged on elytra in longitudinal rows.

Head and pronotum with coarse, dense and irregular puncturation on head and regular on pronotum, rather deep punctures, somewhat smaller than eye facets in diameter, interspaces between them less than a puncture diameter, completely smooth. Elytral surface with a slight trace of costae, punctures very irregular, including as large as on head and pronotum and also almost twice larger, interspaces between them somewhat broader than on head and pronotum, smooth. Pygidium with smaller and less distinct punctures, and with microreticulated narrow interspaces. Prosternum with shallow indistict punctures, about as large as eye facets in diameter, interspaces between them mostly narrower than a puncture diameter and alutaceous. Metasternum with punctures as those on pronotum, but interspaces between them 1.5–2.0 puncture diameters and smooth. Ventrites with very small and rather sparse punctures and more or less alutaceous intervals between them.

Head slightly concave, somewhat shorter than distance between moderately large eyes (consisting of moderately large facets and very short interfacetal setae) and with raised dilatations over antennal insertions. Labrum with subtruncate lobes and a very short excision between. Mandibles moderately raised and with nearly forked apices moderately projecting. Antennae as long as head wide, their club somewhat less than 1.3 times as long as wide, composing about 1/3 of total antennal length, subtriangular scape 4/5 as wide as long. Pronotum slightly and regularly arcute at sides (as widely (sub) explanate as width of antennal club), with small paramedial depressions in distal half, its anterior edge looking as a trapezoid-like excision, its posterior edge biemarginate, anterior corners narrowly rounded and posterior ones distinctly angular, with subflattened disk. Elytra gently convex, with sides somewhat more narrowly explanate than pronotal ones and regularly narrowed in distal half to narrowly rounded apices. Pygidium subacute at apex.

Antennal grooves well outlined and parallel-sided. Subparamental lines rather distinct. Prosternum flattened with flat process, strongly widened before almost roof-like apex (which almost twice as wide as antennal club). Distance between mesocoxae nearly 1.5 times broader and that between metacocae twice wider than that between procoxae. Metasternum flattened and with a short medial longitudinal depression in distal half, slightly longer than pro- and mesosterna combined, its posterior edge between coxae very shallowly emarginate. Submetacoxal lines very slightly deviating from posterior edge of cavities. Hypopygidium subtringular and with a small medial tubercle at apex.

Metatibia at base somewhat dilated along inner edge, 3/4 as wide as antennal club. Protibia almost as wide as antennal club. Mesotibia simple, 4/5 as wide as antennal club. Pro- and mesofemora about 2.5 times as wide as corresponding tibiae, metafemur almost 4 times as wide as corresponding tibiae; mesofemur of usual configuration, profemur with anterior edge and metafemur with posterior edge slightly concave. Tarsi narrow, but with 1–3 tarsomeres distinctly lobed, their claws long and simple and unisetose empodium between.

Aedeagus reather small and moderately sclerotized.

FEMALE (syntype). Length 5.5, breadth 2.5, height 1.2 mm. Differs from male in simple metatibiae.

Pleoronia tuberculata Kirejtshuk et Cline, **sp.n.**
Figs. 16–22.

Holotype, ♂ (USNM), “Cantareira, Sao Paulo, 18-VIII-1964, Halik / BRASIL, Halik 1966, Collection”; and 1 paratype, ♂ (NRS), “Nova Teutonia Sta., Catharina BRAZIL, May 1941, Fritz Plaumann leg.”.

DESCRIPTION of MALE (holotype). Length 5.5 mm, breadth 2.1 mm, height 0.9 mm. Elongate, faintly convex dorsally and ventrally, dorsum subunicolorous dark brown to reddish brown with pronotal and elytral sides, antennae, and venter somewhat lighter; elytra with 2 orange/red spots on each elytron: anterior — small and somewhat circular located at lateral explanation, posterior — transversely inclined and located near suture; dorsum with thin conspicuous greyish hairs, about 2 times longer than distance between their insertions and with squamose suberect hairs, about two times longer than thinner hairs, arranged in more or less longitudinal rows on elytra; underside with sparser hairs, although only prosternum with long dense hairs.

Head with distinct and irregular punctures, subequal in size to eye facets in diameter, becoming smaller (about 1/2 the size) on frons; interspaces between them approximately 1/2 puncture diameter apart and alutaceous with some faint microreticulation. Pronotum with punctures, slightly smaller than those on vertex, interspaces between them alutaceous and separated by 1/2 puncture diameter. Elytra with punctures, similar to those on pronotum, interspaces between them alutaceous and narrowly separated similar to that on pronotum. Both elytra and pronotum with distinct raised tubercles, tubercle size equal to approximately 6–8 punctures diameters, elytral tubercles somewhat larger than pronotal ones. Pygidium with dense punctures and with deeper impressed regions, punctures somewhat smaller than those on elytra, interspaces between them very narrow and alutaceous with some microreticulation. Prosternum with deep large punctures, about as large as eye facets in diameter, interspaces between them approximately 1/2 diameter apart and alutaceous; prosternal process with punctures in more or less longitudinal rows, interspaces alutaceous and about a diameter apart. Mesosternum with very faint punctures, similar to those on prosternum, interspaces between them finely alutaceous and about 1–2 diameters apart. Metasternum with minute punctures on disk, about 1/4 the size of those on mesosternum, broadly distant with interspaces smooth and about 4–5 diameters apart, anterior lateral region with punctures coalesced into transverse furrows with interspaces microreticulated. Ventrites with punctures as large as those on prosternum, interspaces between them about a diameter apart and alutaceous; hypopygidium densely punctured with interspaces very narrow and alutaceous.

Head as wide as long, somewhat convex with median not deep concavity, transverse occipital line not apparent. Eyes large, slightly bulging laterally, coarsely faceted, interfacetal setae conspicuous about 1/2 length of facet diameter, temples slightly depressed. Labrum with evenly rounded lobes, divided by a small narrow incision. Mandibles rather small. Antennae equal in length to width of head, club compact and ovoid, about 1 1/2 as long as wide, comprising about 1/3 total length, scape triangular and wider than long, antennomere 2 short and about 2/3 length of antennomere 3. Pronotum evenly rounded laterally and widest at middle, lateral margins broadly evenly explanate, anterior angles somewhat produced anteriorly, posterior margin nearly truncate, anterior margin trapezoidal, pronotum bordered on all sides, 3 pairs of paramedial impressions faintly visible: anterior pair close together near median line, middle pair far apart closer to lateral explanation, poste-

rior pair also far apart near lateral explanation and posterior margin. Elytra evenly convex, lateral margins only slightly less explanate than pronotum and becoming somewhat more narrowed to apex, only one pair of paramedial impressions distinct posterior to scutellum near suture. Scutellum broadly semicircular. Pygidium broadly triangular, slightly fimbriate.

Antennal grooves well-defined and mostly parallel-sided. Mentum subquadrangular and about 4 times wider than long. Prosternal process subflattened over mesosternum, apex broadly slightly rounded, maximum width about 1 1/2 width of antennal club. Mesosternum medially with distinct carina. Metasternum subflattened, its posterior margin between coxae broadly evenly concave. Distance between mesocoxae approximately 1.2 times broader than distance between procoxae, distance between metacoxae approximately 1.5 times distance between mesocoxae. Submesocoxal lines slightly diverging from cavity at outer corner. Hypopygidium subtriangular.

Tibiae about as wide as antennal club; protibia somewhat elongate with width:length = 1:3, very finely crenulate along lateral edge, no armature present; mesotibia with width: length = 1:3, scarcely rounded along lateral edge, evenly concave along inner edge, apical region somewhat produced, outer edge with numerous short thin spines; metatibia with width:length = 1:5, inner and outer edges mostly straight with concavity at proximal 1/3 of inner margin, lateral edge with row of numerous short spines, apical edge with several small flat teeth, inner and outer apical corners with spines, apical border with angulate apical/lateral region. Femora of usual configuration and about 2.5 times as wide as tibiae. Tarsi narrow, but with 1–3 tarsomeres narrowly lobed, their claws long and simple and unisetose empodium between.

Aedeagus somewhat small with characteristic apically pointed tegmen and penis trunk.

VARIATION. Length 5.2 mm. The second specimen examined (paratype) is very similar to the holotype, although its coloration somewhat darker and lighter part of sclerites less expressed.

ETYMOLOGY. Epithet of this new species is derived from the conspicuous raised tubercles on the pronotum and elytra.

Soronia dorrigoi sp.n.

Figs. 1–5.

New South Wales: holotype, ♂ (ANIC) and 1 paratype, ♂ (ZIN): "30.22S 152.44E AUSTR. NSW, Dorrigo Nat. Park, Dorrigo camp 13–15.11.1990 (14.11.1990), A. Kirejtshuk, under bark".

DESCRIPTION of male (holotype). Length 2.8, breadth 1.7, height 0.6 mm. Oval, moderately convex dorsally and subflattened ventrally; brownish, with head and spots on elytra along their lateral edges and at sides of scutellum dark, nearly black; explanate sides of pronotum and elytra, disk of elytra as well as prohypomera and epipleura and legs reddish; dorsum with a faint fat lustre, and underside slightly more shining; dorsum with diffuse, stout and (sub) erect hairs with returned apical half (dark ones on darker surface and reddish golden ones on lighter places), forming longitudinal rows on elytra, interstices between these hairs with short and thin recumbent yellowish hairs; underside covered with sparser, yellowish golden hairs, about as long and thin as shorter hairs on dorsum; lateral pronotal and elytral edges with a row of hairs snuggling to the very margin.

Head with distinct and dense punctures in posterior half, rather larger than eye facets and indistinct fossae at antennae and anterior edge; interspaces between them at base fairly narrow, but to anterior edge they becoming wider and coarsely alutaceous. Pronotal surface nearly as that at head base, but intervals between punctures to half a puncture diameter, along its sides puncturation becoming shallower and indistinct. Scutellum with small and sparse punctures, interspaces between them somewhat smoothed. Elytra with smaller and sparser punctures than those on pronotum, separated by much more than a puncture diameter and with interspaces between them more or less smoothed. Prosternum nearly as punctured as head base but interstices between punctures at anterior half rather smooth, but at posterior part coarsely microreticulated. Mesosternum extremely finely and densely granulate. Metasternum and ventrites with very sparse punctures, much smaller than eye facets and with interspaces between them more or less smooth and shining.

Head concave, much shorter than distance between eyes (composed of moderately large facets and with stout and very short interfacetal setae). Frons distinctly dilated and elevated over insertions of antennae. Antennae much longer than head broad; club about twice as long as wide, composing nearly 1/3 total antennal length; scape strongly dilated and transverse, antennomere 3 slightly longer than antennomeres 2 and 4 taken separately. Labrum with widely rounded fore edge and narrowly dissected at the middle. Mandibles scarcely exposed from under labrum. Pronotum with widely explanate sides and 2 transverse rows of oval shallow depressions on disk, its anterior corners moderately far projecting, its base with well raised border and with small but distinct posterior corners, its sides finely undulate. Scutellum subangular at apex. Elytra with feeble shoulders and evenly sloped to widely explanate sides (almost as finely undulate as pronotal ones), their apices forming a common arc; subsutural lines not expressed. Pygidium widely rounded at apex and anal sclerite scarcely exposed.

Mentum subquadrangular, about twice as wide as long. Antennal grooves somewhat expressed only at mentum, arcuately convergent at both head base and mouth. Last labial and maxillar palpomeres with narrowed apices. Distance between mesocoxae somewhat narrower and that between metacoxae nearly twice greater than that between procoxae. Prosternal process strongly dilated before almost transversely truncate apex pressed to mesosternal surface. Mesosternum with a weak and short medial carina. Metasternum slightly depressed before its widely emarginate posterior edge between coxae. Submesocoxal lines follow closely posterior edge of cavity arcuately deviating from the latter only at lateral end of cavity. Ventrite 1 about 3 times as long as hypopygidium; apex of the latter widely rounded. Epipleura very wide, much wider at their base than femora (about 3 times as wide as antennal club), and subhorizontal.

Tibiae narrow and simple, considerably narrower than antennal club. Femora with fore and hind edges gently convex, profemur slightly more than twice, meso- and metafemora about 3 times as wide as corresponding tibiae. Tarsi very narrow and short, tarsomeres 1–3 weakly lobed, tarsomere 5 longer than tarsomeres 1–4 combined, claws bulbaceous at base and with bisetose empodium between them.

Aedeagus moderately sclerotized.

VARIATION. The second specimen (paratype) is somewhat smaller (2.6 mm) and lighter with reddish underside as well as with more contrasting spots and more conspicuous pubescence on dorsum.

DIAGNOSIS. This species is quite distinct from the second Australian congener in the characters of the below key:

1. Body larger: 3.5–4.9 mm; elongate oval; pronotum slightly more than twice as wide as long; head with transverse depression between antennal insertions; antennal club

about 1.5 times as long as wide; dorsal pubescense moderately conspicuous; epipleura at base nearly as wide as metafemora. Male: hypopygidial apex angular .... *S. superba* Reitter, 1873

— Body smaller: 2.6–2.8 mm; short oval; pronotum considerably more than 2.5 times as wide as long; head strongly concave; antennal club nearly twice as long as wide; dorsal pubescence strongly conspicuous; epipleura at base much wider than metafemora. Male: hypopygidial apex widely rounded .... *S. dorrigoi* sp.n.

Small and shortly oval body of *S. dorrigoi* sp.n. allows easily to diagnose it also from members of the genus known from New Zealand. *S. dorrigoi* sp.n. is rather similar to *Hisparonia hystrix* comb.n., in particular by the body shape and body size as well by the type of dorsal pubescence(see above), however, it is well distinct from the latter in the characters of the genus, including more exposed labrum, not strongly enlarged dilatations over the antennal insertions, and also in the lighter body with coloration pattern (characteristic of species of *Soronia* and *Lobiopa*), not so stout longer setae on dorsum, which are with long narrowing continuation curved downward to body surface.

ETYMOLOGY. The name of this new species is taken from its type locality, called after the founder of this park.

Soronia glabra **sp.n.**

Figs. 38–43.

Réunion: holotype, ♂ (ZMB) and 165 paratypes (BMNH, ZISP, ZMB) — "Réunion, 7−12.1.1992, Route de Maido 1600-1700 m, J. Janák".

DESCRIPTION of MALE (holotype). Length 5.6, breadth 2.4, height 0.7 mm. Oval, slightly convex dorsally and subflattened ventrally; reddish, head, few places on pronotal disk and spots on elytra infuscate, but some places along their lateral edges, at sides of scutellum and before apices rather darkened; dorsum and underside rather shining; dorsum with diffuse suberect, extremely fine hairs, interstices between these hairs with very short and scarcely visible recumbent hairs; underside covered with very short and scarcely visible hairs.

Head with distinct and dense punctures in posterior half, rather larger than eye facets in diameter, and fine and distinct punctures in anterior half; interspaces between them more or less narrower than a puncture diameter, finely alutaceous to smooth. Pronotal surface nearly as that at head base, but punctures markedly larger and very irregular, they very dense in shallow depressions (particularly in the middle on disk) and somewhat sparser on elevated places, intervals between punctures on elevated places up to somewhat broader than a puncture diameter. Scutellum with small and sparse punctures, interspaces between them somewhat smoothed. Elytra about as punctured and sculptured as pronotum, but punctures more regular and with interspaces between them more or less smoothed, some of larger punctures forming not quite distinct longitudinal rows. Prosternum with irregular punctures as large as eye facets in diameter or somewhat smaller, interspaces between them markedly narrower than a puncture diameter, very finely microreticulated to alutaceous. Meso- and metasterna with regular, larger and sparser punctures, interspaces between them markedly broader than a puncture diameter and about alutaceous. Ventrites with almost regular punctures, much smaller than eye facets in diameter, with interspaces between them rather broad on ventrite 1 and about as broad as a puncture diameter on the rest ventrites, more or less smooth and shining.

Head subdepressed with a concave triangle behind antennal insertions, much shorter than distance between eyes (composed of moderately large facets and without interfacetal setae). Antennae much longer than head broad; club about 1 1/4 as long as wide, composing nearly 1/4 total antennal length; scape strongly dilated and rather elongate than transverse, antennomere 3 much longer than antennomere 2 and slightly longer than antennomeres 4 and 5 taken separately. Labrum with subtransverse anterior edge and moderately excised at the middle. Mandibles well raised and rather projecting from under labrum. Pronotum with widely explanate sides, longitudinal median depression and rows of paramedial shallow depressions on disk, its anterior corners slightly projecting, its base with well raised border and with scarcely traced apices of posterior corners, its sides slightly undulate. Scutellum with angular apex. Elytra with feeble shoulders and evenly sloped to widely explanate sides (almost as widely explanate as pronotal ones), their apices forming a common arc; subsutural lines expressed in distal half and closely follow suture. Pygidium narrowly rounded to subacute at apex and anal sclerite scarcely exposed.

Mentum subquadrangular, about 3 times as wide as long. Antennal grooves well expressed only at mentum, arcuately convergent at both head base and mouth. Subparamental concavities continuing as grooves. Last labial and maxillar palpomeres with slightly narrowed apices. Distance between mesocoxae about twice and that between metacoxae nearly 2.5 times greater than that between procoxae. Prosternal process strongly dilated before almost transversely truncate apex pressed to mesosternal surface (about 2.5 times as wide as antennal club). Mesosternum slightly convex, without median carina. Metasternum slightly depressed before its widely emarginate posterior edge between coxae. Submesocoxal lines follow closely posterior edge of cavity arcuately deviating from the latter only at lateral end of cavity. Ventrite 1 about twice as long as hypopygidium; apex of the latter widely rounded. Epipleura very wide, much wider at their base than femora (about twice as wide as antennal club), and somewhat elevated laterally.

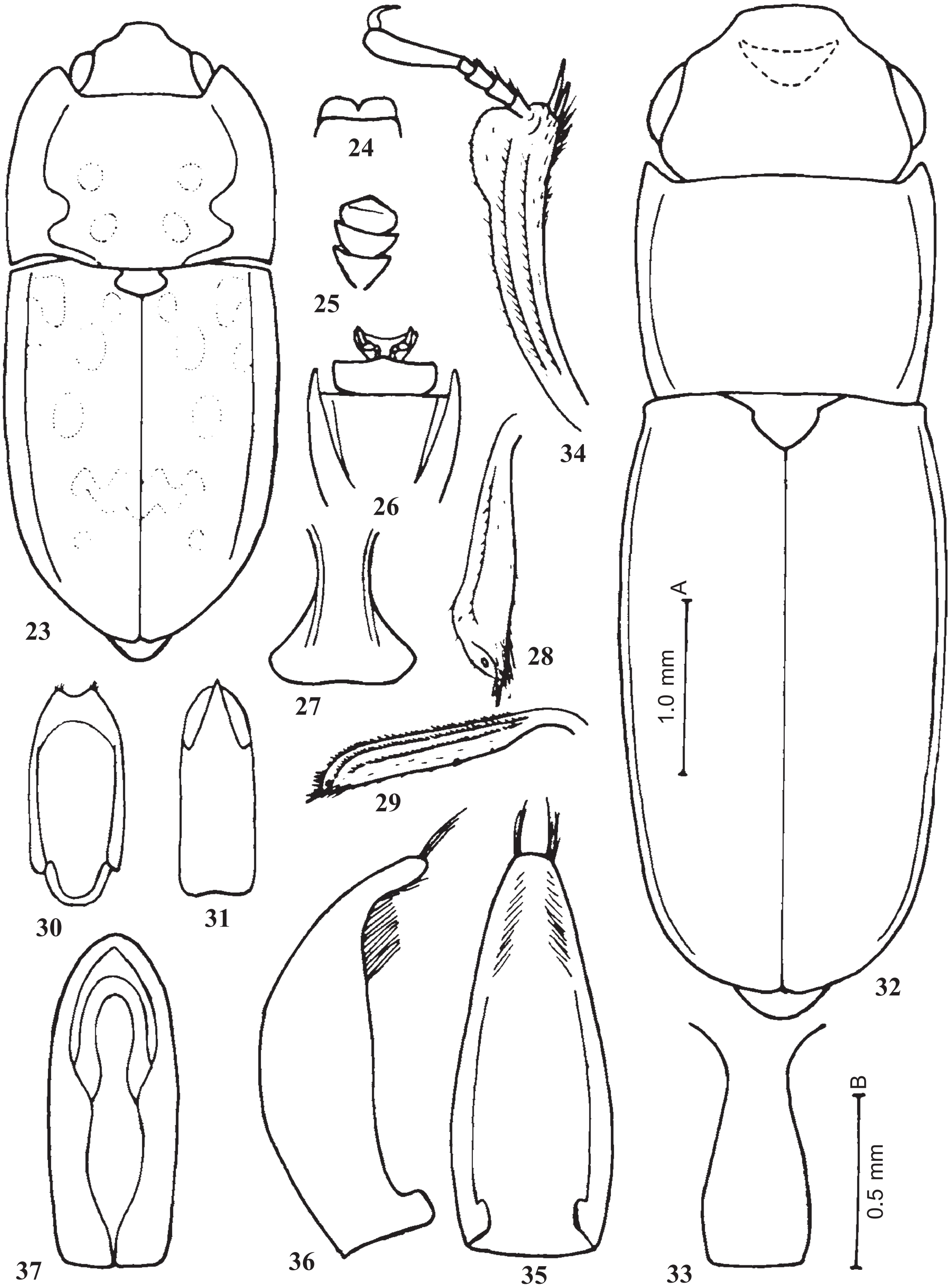
Tibiae narrow and simple, considerably narrower than antennal club. Femora with anterior and posterior edges gently convex, pro- and mesofemora slightly more than 1.5 times, metafemur about 2.5 times as wide as corresponding tibiae. Tarsi very narrow and short, tarsomeres 1–3 weakly lobed, tarsomere 5 longer than tarsomeres 1–4 combined, claws simple and narrow, with bisetose empodium between them.

Aedeagus moderately sclerotized.

FEMALE differs from male only by more widely rounded apex of pygidium and frequently elytral apices rather acuminate than forming a join arc. Ovipositor of usual structure.

VARIATIONS. Length 3.8–5.8 mm. The pattern of dark infuscation on dorsum varies to a great degree: unicolorous straw reddish to light reddish with blackish spots spread on the most surface. Nevertheless, most specimens are as coloured as the holotype. Some variability is observed in the expression of concavity of pronotum, puncturation and conspicuousness of the dorsal pubescence. Depressions on pronotum are also rather variable, sometimes almost obsolete, sometimes they are reminiscent of pattern of the depressions characteristic of *S. borbonica* Grouvelle, 1899 (median depression on the pronotal disk of *S. borbonica* is almost regularly circular).

DIAGNOSIS. This new species is very distinct from all the congeners thanks to the peculiar combination of its characters: weakly projecting anterior corners of pronotum, scarcely traced apices of posterior corners, very fine and inconspicu-



Figs. 23–37. Nitidulini: 23–31 — *Pleoronia discedens* comb.n. (23 — body with outline of explanate sides of pronotum and elytra as well as with dotted contour of light spots on pronotum and elytra, dorsal; 24 — anterior part of head with labral lobes, dorsal; 25 — antennal club; 26 — mentum, subparamental lines and labial palpi, ventral; 27 — prosternal process, ventral; 28 — male mesotibia; dorsal; 29 — male metatibia, dorsal; 30 — tegmen, ventral; 31 — penis trunk, dorsal); 32–37 — *Stenoronia librodoroformis* sp.n. (32 — body with outline of explanate sides of pronotum and elytra as well as with intermitted contour of depression on head, dorsal; 33 — prosternal process, ventral; 34 — male metatibia, dorsal; 35 — tegmen, ventral; 36 — tegmen, lateral; 37 — penis trunk, dorsal). Scales: A — to figs. 23, 32; B — to figs. 24–31, 33–37.

ous dorsal pubescence, coarser dorsal puncturation and alutaceous integument, well impressed subparamental grooves in addition to well expressed antennal grooves. Showing a considerable resemblance to *S. borbonica*, it is quite distinct from the latter (collected together with the specimens of this new species: 1 specimen — ZMB) in the almost subflattened dorsum, more even integument of dorsal sclerites, scarcely traced apices of posterior corners of the pronotum, more or less expressed trace of longitudinal rows of punctures on the elytra, very fine and inconspicuous dorsal pubescence, more distinct dorsal puncturation and alutaceous integument, not so subtle and uncurved tibiae, much finer and denser puncturation on the underside. See also the Diagnosis of the following species.

NOTES. This new species seems to be a close relative to *S. borbonica*, and its seclusion could be as sequence of a long isolation of separate populations on different islands.

ETYMOLOGY. The epithet of this new species reflects a peculiar reduction of its pubescence.

Soronia madagascarensis **sp.n.**
Figs. 44–49.

Specimens examined — holotype, ♂ (ZMB) — "Madagascar est, 1 100–1 200 m, P.N. Ranomafana", "Vohiparara, 21–24.1.1993, J. Janák".

DESCRIPTION of MALE (holotype). Length 4.6, breadth 2.3, height 1.2 mm. Oval, moderately convex dorsally and subflattened ventrally; ventral surface of head, prosternum and epipleura reddish; however, most part of dorsal surface of head and pronotum, indistinct infuscations at scutellum as well as along lateral and apical edges of elytra, and also ventrites brownish; the middle of each elytral disk with a small round black spot; dorsum with a moderate luster and underside rather shining; dorsum with sparse, subrecumbent and rather conspicuous yellowish hairs, not longer than intervals between them and forming longitudinal rows on elytra, interstices between these hairs with very short and slightly conspicuous recumbent hairs; underside covered with very short and scarcely visible hairs.

Head, pronotum, scutellum and elytra with uniform, distinct and dense punctures, significantly larger than eye facets in diameter (particularly on elytra); interspaces between them more or less narrower than a puncture diameter and smooth. Prosternum with irregular punctures, as large as eye facets in diameter to markedly smaller, interspaces between them markedly broader than a puncture diameter and alutaceous. Mesosternum with indistinct, sparse and very fine puncturation, very dense and contrasting microreticulation. Metasternum and ventrites with almost regular punctures, about as large as eye facets in diameter, interspaces between them about as broad as a puncture diameter, more or less smooth and shining.

Head very widely subdepressed behind antennal insertions, much shorter than distance between eyes (composed of moderately large facets and with short interfacetal setae). Antennae much longer than head broad; club about 1 1/2 as long as wide, composing nearly 1/4 of total antennal length; scape strongly dilated and somewhat transverse, antennomere 3 much longer than antennomere 2 and slightly longer than antennomeres 4 and 5 taken separately. Labrum with subarcuate apices of lobes. Mandibles well raised and rather projecting from under labrum. Pronotum with gently sloped sides (only slightly subexplanate at edges), without clear depressions on disk, its anterior corners slightly projecting, its base with well raised border and without visible apices of posterior corners, its sides without clear undulation. Scutellum with angular apex. Elytra with feeble shoulders and evenly sloped sides, their apices forming a common arc; subsutural lines expressed in distal third and closely follow suture. Pygidium widely rounded at apex and anal sclerite scarcely exposed.

Mentum subquadrangular, more than 3 times as wide as long. Antennal grooves well expressed only at mentum, arcuately convergent at both head base and mouth. Subparamental concavities continuing as grooves. Last labial and maxillar palpomeres with slightly narrowed apices (last labial palpomere about twice as long as wide). Distance between mesocoxae about 1.5 times and that between metacoxae nearly 2.5 times greater than that between procoxae. Prosternal process strongly dilated before almost transversely subtruncate to very widely arcuate apex pressed to mesosternal surface (about 2.5 times as wide as antennal club), transversely concave along posterior edge. Mesosternum slightly convex, without median carina. Metasternum slightly medially depressed, its posterior edge between coxae clearly angular. Submesocoxal lines follow closely posterior edge of cavity arcuately deviating from the latter only at lateral end of cavity. Ventrite 1 almost as long as ventrites 2–4 combined and more than twice as long as hypopygidium; apex of the latter widely rounded to subangular. Epipleura very wide, somewhat wider at their base than femora (about 3 times as wide as antennal club), and sloped downward laterally.

Tibiae narrow and simple, slightly narrower than antennal club, all with widely rounded outer subapical corner. Femora with anterior and posterior edges gently convex, pro- and mesofemora about 2.5 times as wide as corresponding tibiae, metafemur nearly 3 times as wide as metatibia. Tarsi very narrow and short, tarsomeres 1–3 weakly lobed (although protarsus about twice wider than meso- and metatarsi), tarsomere 5 longer than tarsomeres 1–4 combined, claws comparatively short and rather bulged at base, with bisetose empodium between them.

Aedeagus moderately sclerotized.

DIAGNOSIS. This species is very distinct from all the congeners, including *Soronia alluaudi* Grouvelle, 1899 and *S. kolbei* Grouvelle, 1913 known from Madagascar, in the complete lack of apices of the pronotal posterior corners and gently sloping pronotal and elytral sides. This new species has also the following peculiar characters: even surface of pronotum, angularly excised posterior edge of the metasternum between coxae, developed intefacetal setae and very wide epipleura sloped downward laterally.

ETYMOLOGY. The name of this new species is formed from the name of the island.

Рис. 23–37. Nitidulini: 23–31 — *Pleoronia discedens* comb.n. (23 — тело с очертанием отогнутых боков переднеспинки и надкрылий, а также с пунктированным контуром светлых пятен на переднеспинке и надкрыльях, сверху; 24 — передний край головы с лопастями лабрума, сверху; 25 — булава усиков; 26 — ментум, субпараментальные линии и лабиальные щупики, снизу; 27 — отросток переднегруди, снизу; 28 — средняя голень самца, сверху; 29 — задняя голень самца, сверху; 30 — тегмен, снизу; 31 — ствол пениса, сверху); 32–37 — *Stenoronia librodoroformis* sp.n. (32 — тело с очертанием отогнутых боков переднеспинки и надкрылий, а также с прерывистым контуром вдавления на голове, сверху; 33 — отросток переднегруди, вентрально; 34 — задняя голень самца, сверху; 35 — тегмен, снизу; 36 — тегмен, сбоку; 37 — ствол пениса, сверху). Масштабы: А — к рис. 23, 32; В — к рис. 24–31, 33–37.

Stenoronia gen.n.

Type species: *Stenoronia librodoriformis* sp.n.

NOTES. This genus is represented by the only species, and therefore the description of it overlaps with the description of species ("*descriptio generica specifica*").

DIAGNOSIS. Differs from all other members of the *Soronia* complex in the subparallel-sided, elongate and very long body, very narrowly explanate pronotal and elytral sides, divergent antennal grooves, comparatively narrow epipleura distinctly and moderately elevated laterally, subglabrous dorsum and invisible pubescence on the underside, metasternum slightly emarginate at anterior edge and shallowly angularly excised at posterior edge between metacoxae. Nevertheless, it has the characteristic features of the *Soronia* complex, namely: rounded outer subapical corner of protibia with very fine crenellation, narrow tarsi, subparamental lines, distinct arcuate lines at anterior corners of ventrites, generalized type of aedeagus (typical for the complex of genera under consideration). This new genus is also characterized by the lack of transverse occipital line, very long elytra not covering the distal half of pygidium and distinct angular excision of posterior edge of the metasternum between coxae.

ETYMOLOGY: The name of this new genus is formed from the Greek "*stenos*" (narrow) and generic suffix from "*Soronia*".

Stenoronia librodoriformis Kirejtshuk et Cline, **sp.n.**
Figs. 32–37.

Specimen examined: holotype, ♂ (USNM) — "PARAGUAY, Paragauri Dept., Ybyuci (25km SE), in Ybuci National Park, 12–24-April-1980, P. J. Spangler et al."

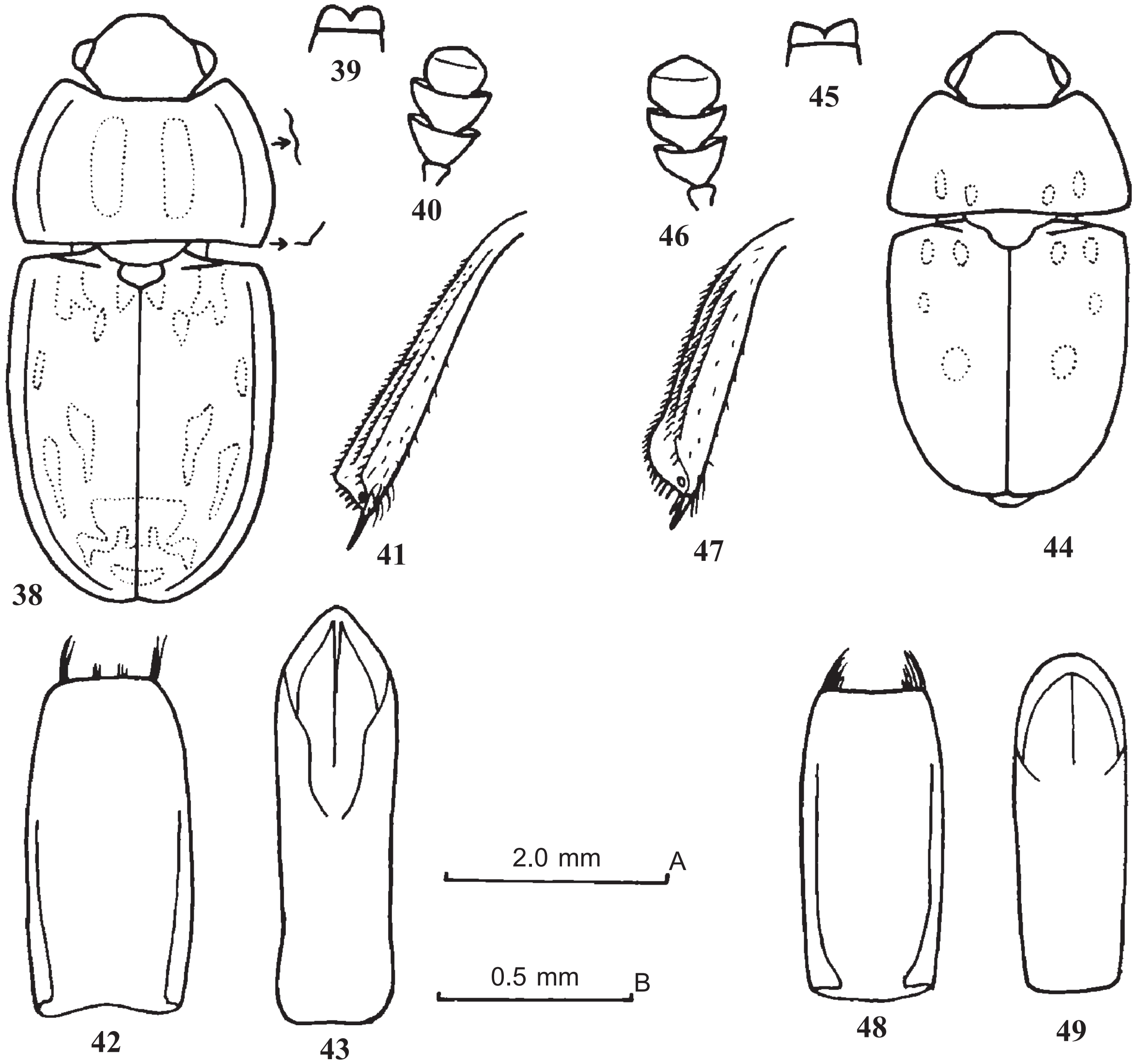
DESCRIPTION of male (holotype): Length 11.0 mm, breadth 4.1 mm, height 2.1 mm. Elongate and somewhat parallel-sided; somewhat convex dorsally and ventrally; dorsum unicolorous dark reddish brown, venter similarly colored; body shining with minute greyish recumbent hairs, subequal in length to their insertions, underside similarly faintly pubescent.

Head surface with faint irregular punctures (somewhat more impressed near lateral margins), interspaces between them variably separated from 1/2 to several puncture diameters; occiput more densely punctured than the rest of head; interspaces between punctures either alutaceous or with fine microreticulation. Pronotal punctures about 2/3 smaller than punctures on head, irregular, shallowly impressed, interspaces between them about half a puncture diameter apart and finely alutaceous. Scutellum with similar puncturation as pronotum. Elytra with 2 puncture types: most frequent type includes large and irregular punctures, about twice as large as those on pronotum, another type is small punctures, 1/3 to 1/4 of the larger punctures; interspaces between larger punctures about a puncture diameter, interspaces between smaller punctures about 7–8 diameters apart; all interspaces finely alutaceous. Pygidium with punctures irregular and subequal to larger elytral punctures, interspaces between them about 1/4 of puncture diameter and alutaceous or microreticulated. Prosternum with small irregular punctures, punctures often coalescing to form transverse rugulose regions in the anterior 1/3, becoming more distinct posteriorly near process with interspaces between them alutaceous; prosternal process with distinct median groove extending to near apex, with punctures somewhat larger than those on anterior region, interspaces between them less than a puncture diameter apart and alutaceous to finely microreticulated. Mesosternum faintly, obsoletely punctured and coarsely alutaceous. Metasternum with puntures equal in size to those on prosternum, becoming obsolete and smaller on disk, intespaces between punctures smooth to finely alutaceous. Ventrites with faint large punctures, somewhat larger than those on lateral region of metasternum, interspaces between them alutaceous and about a puncture diameter apart. Hypopygidium with only a few scattered large irregular punctures, subequal to those on other ventrites, interspaces between them alutaceous and with some microreticulation.

Head slightly convex at occiput with indistinct transverse occipital line, vertex flattened posteriorly with median concavity behind antennal insertions, frons and labrum moderately projecting anteriorly, parocular lines not expressed. Eyes large with temples depressed, somewhat coarsely faceted, facets as large as punctures on head and with short sparsely distributed interfacetal setae. Labrum with narrow incision between subtriangular lobes. Mandibles well-developed, broad, and bifid at apex. Antennae somewhat shorter than head width, antennal club somewhat less than 1/4 of total antennal length, subcircular and with subequal length of each of 3 terminal antennomeres, scape two times as long as wide, antennomeres 2–4 taken separately, subequal in length, each about 1/2 as long as scape. Pronotum somewhat transverse, widest at anterior 1/3, narrowly bordered on sides except median region of anterior edge, lateral margins narrowly explanate, anterior edge shallowly trapezoidal, posterior edge nearly straight, with slight emarginations near posterior corners, anterior angles produced anteriorly and posterior angles with distinct apices; 3 pairs of impressions on surface, anterior pair between lateral border and median area, appearing as longitudinal impressions from anterior border, middle pair circular and deep found closer to lateral margin than anterior impressions, posterior pair faint and irregular originating near posterior border and extending towards middle impressions. Scutellum broadly triangular. Elytra nearly complete, evenly arcuate posteriorly forming conjoined apex, leaving only 1/3 of pygidium exposed, evenly convex, lateral margins narrowly evenly explanate, subsutural lines visible throughout most of elytra. Pygidium broadly triangular, with apical 1/4 posteriorly produced and broadly rounded at apex.

Mentum moderately large and comprising about 1/2 of distance between eyes. Last labial palpomere subconical and more than twice as long as preceeding two segments combined. Subparamental lines distinct. Antennal grooves rather deep, broadly excavate and slightly divergent posterorly. Prosternal process wide, narrowest at anterior edge of procoxae, becoming broadly expanded behind procoxae overlapping mesosternum with truncate apex. Epipleura comparatively narrow, markedly narrower than antennal club, rather elevated laterally. Mesosternum evenly rounded medially. Metasternum somewhat convex and posteriorly flattened, slightly emarginate at anterior edge and shallowly angularly excised at posterior edge between metacoxae. Procoxae and mesocoxae equally separated and metacoxae somewhat more separated. Submesocoxal lines closely follow cavity. Submetacoxal lines slightly diverging from posterior edge of cavity. Ventrite 1 produced anteriorly into more or less acute apex, equal in length to ventrites 2–4 combined; ventrites 2–4 subequal in length; hypopygidium broadly semicircular and somewhat longer than ventrite 4.

Protibia very finely crenulate along lateral border, with width:length = 1:3.5, some thin spines aggregated along posterior region of edge; mesotibia with width: length = 1:4,



Figs. 38–49 . Nitidulini: 38–43 — *Soronia glabra* sp.n. (38 — body with outline of explanate sides of pronotum and elytra as well as with dotted darker spots on pronotum and elytra, dorsal; 39 — fore part of head with labral lobes, dorsal; 40 — antennal club; 41 — male metatibia, dorsal; 42 — tegmen, ventral; 43 — penis trunk, dorsal); 44–49 — *Soronia madagascarensis* sp.n. (44 — body with dotted outline of darker infuscations and spots on pronotum and elytra, dorsal; 45 — fore part of head with labral lobes, dorsal; 46 — antennal club; 47 — male metatibia, dorsal; 48 — tegmen, ventral; 49 — penis trunk, dorsal). Scales: A — to figs. 38, 44; B — to figs. 39–43, 45–49.

Рис. 38–49 . Nitidulini: 38–43 — *Soronia glabra* sp.n. (38 — тело с очертанием отогнутых боков переднеспинки и надкрылий, а также с пунктированным контуром темных пятен на переднеспинки и надкрыльях, сверху; 39 — передний край головы с лопастями лабрума, сверху; 40 — булава усиков; 41 — задняя голень самца, сверху; 42 — тегмен, снизу; 43 — ствол пениса, сверху); 44–49 — *Soronia madagascarensis* sp.n. (44 — тело с пунктированным контуром темных пятен на переднеспинке и надкрыльях, сверху; 45 — передний край головы с лопастями лабрума, сверху; 46 — булава усиков; 47 — задняя голень самца, сверху; 48 — тегмен, снизу; 49 — ствол пениса, сверху). Масштабы: А — к рис. 38, 44; В — к рис. 39–43, 45–49.

outer and apical edges with rows of short stout spines, thin spines similarly aggregated as in protibia; metatibia similar in appearance and armature to mesotibia, but with width:length = 1:4.5. Meso- and metatibiae slightly produced apically. Femora widest near middle, with arcuate outlines of inner and outer edges. Tarsomeres 1–3 narrowly lobed, tarsomere 5 greater in length than tarsomeres 1–4 combined, distinct bisetose empodium visible between simple long claws.

Aedeagus moderately sclerotized, tegmen with apical region produced and two elongate thick setae originating on each side of apex.

ETYMOLOGY. Species epithet derived from the generic name "*Librodor*" for the group of Cryptarchinae and Latin "*formis*" (having a form).

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